

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter. Additionally, isn't one Fox News enough? How much biased and fabricated news must a people be subjected to before the long arm of the law is extended? Sinclair broadcasting, as a privately-owned corporation, is welcome to broadcast whatever salacious and unsubstantiated nonsense they desire, however the use of the public airwaves mandates that they at least go through the motions of showing both sides...in this instance, the political motivations are clear, and must be curtailed.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.